

**Department of Natural Resources
Timber Report
First Quarter Fiscal Year (FY) 2011-12**

Background

Michigan's state forest system was originally certified under both the Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI) and the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) third party forest certification standards in December 2005. Michigan successfully re-certified under both standards in December 2010.

Forest certification protocols require public participation in forest management planning and forest operations. The Department's compartment review process has been audited under both the SFI and the FSC standards and has been recognized as a key public participation mechanism that meets requirements for forest certification.

The Department of Natural Resources' (DNR) investment in forest certification strengthens Michigan's forest products sector. Certification is essential in order for primary wood producers in Michigan to have continued access to national and international markets.

First Quarter FY 2011-12 Timber Treatments

State forest planning and activities, including timber treatments, are conducted within the framework of SFI and FSC forest certification principles and standards. Timber treatments in a given year are based on decisions made two years prior to the treatments through the compartment review process.

The FY 2011-12 plan of work currently identifies 59,201 acres for timber sale preparation that were approved through the compartment review process. Managers have developed work plans to prepare all 59,201 acres for sale with current resources. Final numbers for the work plans may change slightly.

Timber sale preparation is done by DNR staff and through timber marking contracts with private consultants. In the first quarter of FY 2011-12, 1,647 acres of timber sale preparation-marking contracts were awarded. Contracts for an additional 5,000 acres are expected to be in place later in the fiscal year.

The DNR submitted 5,400 acres of timber sales with an estimated volume of 86,900 cords. Typically, fewer acres are prepared for sale during the first quarter of the fiscal year than during subsequent quarters due to seasonal management activities.

The percent of sales with no bids during the first quarter was less than the previous quarter and dropped slightly from the previous year's average. Of 124 sales offered, 122 sold on their initial offering. This 2 percent no-bid percentage can be compared to the fourth quarter of FY 2010-11 when 7 percent of sales received no bids, and the whole of FY 2010-11, where 3 percent of sales received no bids.

FY 2011-12	Total sales offered in the quarter	Offerings with no bids	Percent of sales that were no-bid
1st quarter	124	2	2